



## **Riverside General Plan Program**

### **Neighborhood Topic Group Meeting Tuesday, June 10, 2003**

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On Tuesday, June 10, 2003, City of Riverside Planning staff and the General Plan consultant team, led by Cotton/Bridges/Associates and MIG, held a Neighborhood Topic Group Meeting. The meeting provided the opportunity for representatives from all neighborhoods to provide input into the General Plan program. Neighborhood representatives in attendance included:

Maureen and Tom Clemens, Sycamore Highlands Community Action Group, Canyon Crest Neighborhood

Jeff M. Ortiz, Sycamore Highlands Community Action Group, Canyon Crest Neighborhood

George Flower, Downtown Neighborhood

Tom Martin, La Sierra Hills Neighborhood

Eva Yakutis-McNiel, City of Riverside Office of Neighborhoods

Theb Manivanh, City of Riverside Office of Neighborhoods

Neighborhood representatives were asked to identify how to best pursue the City's vision in the context of the following vision themes:

- A. How we work
- B. How we play
- C. How we live
- D. How we get around
- E. How we learn

The comments of the attendees are provided on the following pages:

#### **How We Play**

Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood – we are finally getting our neighborhood park next year after 10 years of waiting. We feel that this is a very slow pace for park development, but some neighborhoods have been waiting longer.

Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood - Before our park, we were six miles from any open grass.

La Sierra Hills - We are mostly built out. We have a privately owned, vacant lot that we could possibly use for a park.

### **How We Live**

Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood – We live on a hill and feel disconnected from the rest of the City.

Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood – It would be helpful to have a corner store.

Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood - We like our “old town” feel. Let’s keep our community as it is.

La Sierra Hills – We feel isolated by our location. Right now we have no local retail, but there are shops and businesses within five miles.

La Sierra Hills - Generally City services are good. However, we would like a park too, and we are becoming increasingly concerned about traffic.

La Sierra Hills – Code enforcement is not yet an issue for our neighborhood. We have mostly single-family homes.

La Sierra Hills and Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood - Why does Downtown get all the services and assistance? We feel ignored.

La Sierra Hills and Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood - Services should be equal.

Downtown - We have a problem with no police response. We have a lot of crime and problems with public safety and drugs. When you call, response time is slow or sometimes the police don’t come at all.

Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood - We have a lot of problems with thefts. We feel isolated from the police.

### **How We Get Around**

La Sierra Hills and Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood - We don’t have a lot of bus routes in our neighborhoods. Most people drive in their cars to get around.

La Sierra Hills and Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood - Most people prefer their cars, but it is a concern for those who cannot drive, such as seniors and children/teenagers.

Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood - We have addressed a lot of issues already in our neighborhood, but truck traffic is a problem. Trucks are on off-ramps near Fair Isle and the Box Springs exit.

Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood – We would like better trash cans near our bus stop. We asked for trash cans, and we got some unattractive gray ones with a chain. We would like nicer cans, similar to the ones Downtown.

### **How We Learn**

Sycamore Highlands/Canyon Crest Neighborhood - Before we formed our neighborhood committee with the help of the Office of Neighborhoods, we felt neglected by the City. Now we are more empowered and get things done.

La Sierra Hills - We don't have an elementary school.